

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE

JANUARY 23, 2007

Within Los Angeles County, over half a million constituents have served in the armed forces. While the value of their service is immeasurable, it is imperative that the Board does all that is in our authority to acknowledge their tremendous sacrifices and show our appreciation.

The State of California has already acknowledged this esteemed population by authorizing the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue specialized plates that identify veterans for their meritorious service to our Country. Veterans who have received the Congressional Medal of Honor, Army, Navy or Air Force Medal of Honor, Army Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air Force Cross, Purple Heart, former American Prisoners of War, survivors of Pearl Harbor, as well as veterans with Disabled Veteran status, are able to apply for special license plates if certain requirements are met as defined by the California Vehicle Code.

Over 1,000 Los Angeles County constituent veterans have already registered with the DMV for having received such high honor. It is up to the Board of Supervisors to continue the spirit in which the State has distinguished these veterans who have endured incalculable hardship while serving our Country during times of need.

- M O R E -

MOTION

MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____

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I encourage the Board to consider exempting veterans whose vehicles display one of these special license plates, from paying parking fees in County owned Public Parking lots and parking meters. While this small token of our appreciation may have little fiscal impact to the County, it will surely symbolize our undying gratitude and appreciation for their service.

I, THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Direct the Chief Administrative Officer, County Counsel, and the Department of Internal Services, with the assistance of the Department of Beaches and Harbors, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, and the Natural History Museum to accomplish the following:

1. Prepare an ordinance and take other necessary legal action to exempt those driving vehicles with Veteran's Special Plates from parking fees and metered parking in County owned Public Parking lots, at all County Regional Parks, and at parking meters in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, except on weekends and holidays (excluding Veterans Day), where it is feasible and within our jurisdiction to do so. The exemption should be limited to those parking lots where there is an attendant assigned to operate the lot, and that no special consideration be given during hours when the lot is operated by automated equipment; and
2. Conduct staff training in each of the relevant departments on implementation of this new ordinance prior to the effective date of the Board approved ordinance.

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